1   <u>What is claimed is</u>:

2   1.   A system for monitoring a food service site, said system

3   comprising:

4   a)   a   local   processor   assembly   comprising   memory,   a

5   display and input facilities,

6   b)   said local processor assembly including a monitoring

7   program   structured   to   determine   operational

8   performance of the site,

9   c)   said monitoring program comprising a plurality of

10   tasks relating to different operational categories, at

11   least some of said plurality of tasks requiring a user

12   response,

13   d)   predetermined   standards   included   within   said

14   monitoring   program   and   being   determinative   of

15   acceptable performance of said operational categories,

16   e)   result records comprised of data derived from a

17   collection of said user responses and indicative of

18   compliance of said operational categories with said

19   ·   predetermined standards, and

20   f)   a control facility including sufficient memory and

21   processing capabilities for storing and processing

22   said result records to define evidence of a pattern of

23   compliance with said predetermined standards.

24   2.   A system as in claim 1 wherein said predetermined standards

25   comprise government regulatory requirements.

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1   3.   A system as recited in claim 2 wherein said predetermined

2   standards further comprise owner regulatory requirements.

3   4.   A system as recited in claim 2 wherein said predetermined

4   standards further comprise owner regulatory requirements

5   which exceed said government regulatory standards.

6   5.   A system as recited in claim 1 further comprising a

7   plurality of corrective actions communicated to the user on

8   said display, each of said corrective actions being

9   responsive to individual ones of said user responses which

10   indicate the existence of conditions non-compliant with

11   associated ones of said predetermined standards.

12   6.   A system as recited in claim 5 wherein said corrective

13   actions require supplemental user responses directed toward

14   compliance of actual conditions of said operational

15   categories with associated ones of said predetermined

16   standards.

17   7.   A system as recited in claim 1 wherein each of said tasks

18   comprises at least one test item requiring said user

19   response, each of said test items communicated to the user

20   ~~on said display~~.

21   8.   A system as recited in claim 7 wherein each said test items

22   are communicated to the user on said display concurrently

23   with at least one related user response.

24   9.   A system as recited in claim 8 wherein said input

25   facilities are structured to provide user selection of at

least said one related user response.

10. A system as recited in claim 9 wherein said input facilities comprise a probe assembly interfaced with said local processor assembly and structured to determine said one related user response.

11. A system as recited in claim 10 wherein said probe assembly comprises a temperature sensing probe structured to determine an existing temperature, said one related user response communicated on said display as said existing temperature.

12. A system as recited in claim 7 wherein each of said test items are communicated to the user on said display concurrently with a plurality of related user responses.

13. A system as recited in claim 12 wherein said input facilities are further structured to provide user selection of an appropriate one of said plurality of user responses indicative of actual operating conditions.

14. A system as recited in claim 13 wherein said input facilities comprise a display activated keypad structured to allow manual user selection of an appropriate one of said user responses.

15. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said monitoring program includes a scheduling application including preferred performance of said plurality of inquisitory tasks at a specified time.

16. A system as recited in claim 15 wherein said scheduling application indicates preferred performance of said plurality of inquisitory tasks in a predetermined sequence.

17. A system as recited in claim 16 wherein said monitoring program further comprises an alert application for communicating untimely input of a corresponding user response to a scheduled inquisitory task.

18. A system as recited in claim 15 wherein said monitoring program further comprises an alert application for communicating untimely response to a scheduled task.

19. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said input facilities comprise a temperature acquisition module interfaced with said local processor assembly and structured to determine an appropriate user response.

20. A system as recited in claim 10 wherein said temperature acquisition module comprises a probe assembly including a temperature sensing probe structured to determine an existing temperature and communicate the determined existing temperature to said display for communication to the user as a user response.

21. A system as recited in claim 20 wherein said input facilities comprise a display activated keypad structured to allow user selection of an appropriate one of a plurality of displayed user responses.

22. A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said input

1   facilities comprise a display activated keypad structured

2   to allow user selection of an appropriate one of said user

3   responses displayed concurrently with a related inquisitory

4   task.

5   23.   A system as recited in claim 1 wherein said local processor

6   assembly comprises a portable, handheld computer.

7   24.   A system for monitoring at least one of a plurality of food

8   service sites, said system comprising:

9   a)   a portable processor operable at the site and

10   comprising memory, a display and input facilities,

11   b)   said portable processor assembly including a

12   monitoring program determinative of compliant

13   operational performance of the site,

14   c)   said monitoring program comprising a task application

15   relating to different operational categories,

16   d)   said task application including a plurality of test

17   items each requiring a user response indicative of

18   actual conditions associated with said plurality of

19   operational categories,

20   e)   a plurality of predetermined standards defining

21   acceptable performance parameters for said operational

22   categories,

23   f)   a corrective application comprising a plurality of

24   corrective actions, each being responsive to a user

25   response which is non-compliant with associated ones

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1   of said plurality of predetermined standards,

2   g)   result records comprised of data derived from a

3   collection of said user responses and indicative of

4   compliance with said predetermined standards, and

5   h)   a control facility including a central processor

6   having sufficient capability to process said result

7   records in a manner evidencing a pattern of compliance

8   with said predetermined standards.

9   25. A system as recited in claim 24 wherein said input

10   facilities comprise a temperature acquisition module

11   interfaced with said portable processor and structured to

12   communicate data defining user response and representative

13   of actual conditions of said portable processor.

14   26. A system as recited in claim 25 wherein said temperature

15   acquisition module comprises a probe assembly including a

16   temperature sensing probe operative by the user to

17   determine existing temperature data, said temperature data

18   automatically communicated to the user on said display and

19   defining a corresponding user response.

20   27. A system as recited in claim 26 wherein said plurality of

21   input facilities further comprise a display activated

22   keypad structured to allow user selection of an appropriate

23   one of a plurality of user responses evident on said

24   display.

25   28. A system as recited in claim 24 wherein each of said test

1   items are communicated to the user on said display

2   substantially concurrently with at least one user response

3   appropriate to indicate an actual condition of a

4   corresponding one of said operational categories.

5   29. A system as recited in claim 28 wherein at least some of

6   said test items are concurrently displayed with a plurality

7   of user responses individually appropriate to indicate

8   actual conditions of a corresponding one of said

9   operational categories.

10   30. A system as recited in claim 24 wherein said plurality of

11   predetermined standards comprise government derived

12   standards.

13   31. A system as recited in claim 30 wherein said plurality of

14   predetermined standards comprise owner derived standards.

15   32. A system as recited in claim 31 wherein said owner derived

16   standards exceed said government derived standards.

17   33. A system as recited in claim 24 wherein said plurality of

18   corrective actions are communicated to the user on said

19   display and require a user performed action.

20   34. A system as recited in claim 33 wherein said corrective

21   application further comprises requirements for a

22   supplementary user response indicative of compliance of

23   actual conditions with related ones of said plurality of

24   predetermined standards.

25   35. A system as recited in claim 24 wherein said monitoring

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1   program further comprises an alert application for

2   communicating untimely user responses to said plurality of

3   text items.

4   36. A process for monitoring operation of at least one of a

5   plurality of food service sites, said process comprising:

6   a)   establishing a plurality of categories associated with

7   the functioning of the site,

8   b)   determining a plurality of user interactive tasks

9   relating to the operational categories and being

10   indicative of a degree of performance thereof,

11   c)   acknowledging a plurality of standards which define

12   acceptable performance parameters for the operational

13   categories,

14   d)   requiring user responses to the tasks which are

15   indicative of actual conditions associated with the

16   plurality of operational categories,

17   e)   collecting resulting records comprised of data derived

18   from the user responses and being indicative of

19   compliance with the predetermined standards, and

20   f)   processing the result records to establish evidence of

21   a pattern of compliance with said plurality of

22   standards.

23   37. A process as recited in claim 36 comprising communicating

24   a plurality of corrective actions to the user in response

25   to entry of user responses indicative of existing

1   conditions being non-compliant with the plurality of

2   standards.

3   38.   A process as recited in claim 37 comprising requesting

4   performance of the corrective actions by the user in an

5   attempt to bring existing conditions of the operational

6   categories into compliance with the plurality of standards.

7   39.   A process as recited in claim 38 requiring supplementary

8   user response subsequent to performance of the corrective

9   actions which are indicative of compliance of the existing

10   conditions with the plurality of standards.

11   40.   A process as recited in claim 36 comprising defining the

12   plurality of user interactive tasks as a plurality of test

13   items directing user performance to determine existing

14   conditions associated with the plurality of operational

15   categories.

16   41.   A process as recited in claim 40 comprising providing the

17   user with a plurality of user responses indicative of a

18   plurality of possible existing conditions of the plurality

19   of operational categories.

20   42.   A process as recited in claim 41 comprising manually

21   selecting at least one of the provided plurality of user

22   responses.

23   43.   A process as recited in claim 42 comprising automatically

24   selecting at least one of the provided plurality of user

25   responses.

44. A process as recited in claim 41 comprising defining requested user responses as temperature automatically determined by temperature sensing.

45. A process as recited in claim 44 comprising automatically recording the user responses defined by the sensed temperatures.

46. A process as recited in claim 40 comprising scheduling periodic performance of the plurality of test items and required user responses.

47. A process as recited in claim 46 comprising determining untimely entry of user responses to scheduled test items being indicative of untimely user performance of scheduled test items.

48. A process as recited in claim 36 comprising processing the result records to establish documentary evidence of a pattern of compliance with said plurality of standards.

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